

REGARDING H.B. NO. 5140 AN ACT CONCERNING THE HAND-HARVESTING OF HORSESHOE CRABS IN THE STATE.

To Whom it may concern,

I have been a participant, collecting data on the horseshoe crab population in Guilford for Project Limulus for over ten years. It has been saddening to observe their numbers dwindle over time. Dr. Mattei's data emphasizes this point in a stronger manner than I am capable.

Does it seem proper that we, a supposed higher life form, should be responsible for the functional extinction of a creature that has otherwise survived millions of years? I think not. Loss of the horseshoe crab population does not end there- they are part of a larger food web. Please ban further harvesting of horseshoe crabs before it is too late.

L. Orlowski